

Orange N. J. Dec. 8th 50

Prof. Gray

Dear Sir Yours of 11th is received and I am much obliged for your very flattering request that I will make out the report myself. I have felt desirous to do so but hesitated for several reasons - I have no access to any later works than your *Fl. of N. A.* excepting detached accounts in Reports etc. Besides Dr. Torrey tells me that most of my new or rare plants were collected by the Expl. Exped. and are in course of publication.

I can therefore hope to give but little new information, and after such a botanist as Dr. Pickering and others of that Exped. have been over the same ground, my notes will hardly be of much value - Besides it has not been usual to print more than simple lists in the Gov't. Reports and my notes would make considerable bulk, if included

(to 3^d Page)

4 Oct. 12th

There are several plants in Dr. Torrey's list which seem to be particularly interesting in regard to locality or other particulars, and as you make a special study of those north of the Columbia I have thought it well to give you a list of these. You may wish to see the specimens or to have some, which I will be happy to furnish you with. I also wish to ask you as to the identity of some which do not agree with description exactly and which you may have named otherwise in collections from the north. I suppose many of them have been before obtained there, but I put in those I have no account of, not knowing what may prove interesting to you.

If I am not mistaken the true *Comma seriata* is abundant there unless what I take for it is your *le. Drummondii*, *le. pubescens* is certainly very distinct.

Any notes on these if you wish I will gladly insert in my Report. Yours &c
Prof Gray
Cambridge

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I have however begun such a list as you mention including all the plants from the two sides of the Cascade Mts, in two separate articles, as they are so markedly distinct.

I have got on with it to *Uragraceae*, and have found considerable to add and correct in the Fl. of N. A. but when I get to the *Protopetalous* orders after *Compositae* I have nothing to guide me in my selections farther. I will try however to borrow Hooker's Fl. Bor. and perhaps Dr. Torrey will assist me in them.

I have already written something on the character of the country in connection with its forests etc and will be able to add more.

I should be very glad to see your articles on Hooker's works in Silliman's Journal, and will try to get the numbers containing them.

I hope my very neophytic remarks may be of interest to you as you say; but I know the danger of theoretical speculations in Natural Sciences even from my short experience, and

mean to avoid them as much as I can

Those *Mud.* I gave to Dr. Torrey to send you, with the specimens of *Astragalus*, and he must have forgotten or mislaid them I will see him about it before long; but as you wished to make some corrections perhaps it would be best for you to write him.

Practising in a country town I have very little opportunity to see rare books, but hope to spend some time in Washington before long when I can refer to some that I have much wished to see, to settle doubts - I would also like much to confer with the botanists of the Expl. Exped. on my plants

In comparing my specimens of *Spirea Douglasii* with *S. tomentosa*, I see the differences mentioned very plainly & have noted several not in your account. But undoubted specimens of *S. Arizonicæ* in my coll. seem to connect both these and *S. Salicifolia*, all together, as you have suggested their alliance.

I shall have some doubtful cases to trouble you with I fear before long. Yours respectfully
C. C. Cooper